

## FIGHTING IN VERDUN REGION IS CONTINUING UNABATED

Along Whole Front Germans and French Continue the Great Struggle Begun Several Days Ago With Germans on Offensive

### CASUALTIES ARE REPORTED HEAVY

Germans Claim Have Taken Many Prisoners—Aggregate at Last Reports Totalling More Than 10,000. Successes East of Meuse

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] Along the front in the region of Verdun the Germans and French continue the great struggle which began several days ago with the Germans on the offensive and their aim evidently the great French fortress of Verdun.

Notwithstanding a heavy fall of snow, the Germans to the north of Verdun have attacked with what Paris reports unimpeded violence and with large forces, French positions at several points, but according to the French official communication the attacks were without success. Especially has this been true of La Cote du Poivre, about four and a half miles north of the fortress, the statement of which would give the Germans a good vantage point from which to operate against Verdun.

The artillery on both sides along the entire battle front is keeping up an incessant bombardment of opposing positions. So intense are the detonations of the big guns that the sound of them has penetrated eastward to the left bank of the Rhine in Rhenish Prussia.

Heavy casualties are being inflicted by both sides and the Germans claim they have taken many prisoners, the aggregate at last reports totalling more than 10,000.

East of the Meuse the fortified villages and farms of Champeigne, Collette, Marmont, Beaumont, Champeigne and Ornes are declared by Berlin to be in the hands of the Germans, as likewise are French positions to the north of Verdun reaching to the ridge of Louvemont, which lies to the south of Beaumont.

Fighting also has been going on in the Champagne region and bombardments of German positions in the forest of the Argonne and in the Vosges mountains have taken place. In Champagne the French report the capture of a German salient south of St. Marie-A-Py and the taking of 500 prisoners, including twenty-one officers, artillery and mining operations have been in progress along the British front.

Bombardments, infantry attacks and fights with hand grenades have taken place in Russia and Galicia, but there have been no important changes in positions. The bombardments between the Austrians and Italians on the Austro-Italian front continue.

The Russians in the Caucasus and in Persia have taken additional towns from the Turks. Pursuant to the Turkish forces drive out of Erzerum continued on Page Three

### OUTBREAK IN BERLIN

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 25 (Via London).—The Echo Belge, a copy of which has been received here, says it learns that a serious outbreak occurred in Berlin three days ago. The cavalry charged the crowd and in the fight which ensued more than 1000 persons were killed.

### LONDON REALIZES SERIOUSNESS OF GERMAN THRUST TOWARD VERDUN

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] LONDON, Feb. 26.—While the confidence of the military critics has not been shaken by it, the seriousness of the German thrust toward Verdun is recognized. It is realized by these critics that the momentary lull in the fighting is only a prelude to renewed activities when the weather conditions are favorable and probably with redoubled intensity.

## GERMAN GAINS NORTH OF VERDUN STRENGTHENS CONFIDENCE IN BERLIN

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] BERLIN, Feb. 25 (Via London Feb. 25).—The report of German gains northward of Verdun has strengthened the feeling of confidence here in the outcome of future events. The news has provoked no noticeable flurry in Berlin, where no flags have been exhibited.

Naturally it is impossible to hazard a guess whether the latest drive marks the beginning of a great offensive or is only a continuation of the ebullient feeling-out process of recent days. Except as to the number of prisoners taken, the victory of the Germans is one-fourth as great as that achieved by the entente allies in September, when three days' gun fire preceded the attack.

To the gains northward of Verdun must be added 500 yards taken by the Germans southward of Ypres, February 14; 150 yards northward of Ypres, February 15; 500 yards eastward of Sonchey, February 21, and 700 yards westward of Heidevelde on the day of the commencement of the Verdun advance. These gains were preceded by large advances at Vimy in January.

German officials say that the German gains have been scored at virtually every point where an earnest effort at an advance was made, and that in no case has it been necessary to precede the attack with a seventy-two hour cannonade, such as preceded the September offensive of the entente allies.

The importance of the gains northward of Verdun is evident. It is not alone the strongest French fortress, but it offers direct communication with Paris and has been a thorn in the flesh of the Germans for eighteen months. Military observers consider that it is now likely that Verdun soon will be menaced on all sides. The German line of communication north of Verdun has been greatly improved.

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### LYMAN SUSPECT SILENT WHILE UNDER ARREST

TAMPA, Fla., Feb. 25.—The man arrested at St. Petersburg yesterday and declared by federal officials to be Dr. J. Grant Lyman, indicted in New York today on a charge of using the mails to defraud, was brought to Tampa tonight by Deputy Marshal Reynolds and lodged in the county jail. Officials are expected here tomorrow to take him to New York.

Prepared to combat a writ of habeas corpus, Federal District Attorney Phillips swore out a warrant charging the prisoner with a violation of the fugitive from justice act. The prisoner has maintained the same silence he has observed since his arrest.

The youth, who the prisoner purchased here last Saturday remained tonight at St. Petersburg.

### IF VERDUN FALLS WILL MEAN OPEN ROAD TO PARIS

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] LONDON, Feb. 25.—The importance to England of the battle raging around Verdun was emphasized by Major General Sir Francis Lloyd, general officer commanding the London district, in a speech today at the opening of a military building at Wimbledon.

"In the great war which is now proceeding," said General Lloyd, "every individual must give up self absolutely and all must unite in one body to make the war result in victory. Do you realize that a fight is now going on for a passage to Paris? The result will hang in the balance until the Titans are driven back, which I have great confidence we will do."

"But if once our allies are pierced, the war will be open to the French capital, and if that capital is reached a new complexion would be put on the face of the war and on our lives and fortunes."

General Lloyd administered a rebuke to those Britons, who he declared, had acquired the habit of fault finding with and criticizing the work of their leaders.

"You grumblers," said General Lloyd, "are putting spokes in the wheels of the war's progress. The people must learn that it is necessary to carry discipline into every corner of private life and home life to turn the great struggle into a victory."

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### CHARGES ATTEMPT AT ASPHYXIATION

OAKLAND, Cal., Feb. 25.—Charges that Raymond E. Fischer, electrical engineer and a former instructor at the University of California had attempted to asphyxiate his wife, Frances Fischer, and their infant child, were made here today in the superior court and resulted in an interlocutory decree of divorce being granted to Mrs. Fischer. Fischer did not reply to the charges.

Mrs. Fischer testified that she awoke in her home one evening to find the room filled with gas. She found her husband with opening letters with the intention of asphyxiating her and he did not deny the charge, she said. On another occasion she found their child in a gas filled room under circumstances which led her again to accuse her husband. She also charged other crimes.

### CONFIRM FLETCHER NOMINATION

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### GENERAL GLOOM BURIED AT SEA BOBS UP SERENELY

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 25.—General Gloom, who was buried at sea by the Rotary Club February 22 in a coffin branded "Noe-No-More," escaped from Davy Jones' locker and was found on the beach near Point Reyes.

Instead of sinking, as the Rotarians believed, the general awoke, kicked the coffin like a submarine, kicked the casket to pieces in the breakers and marched ashore.

When discovered the general, a 21-gauge hammer, was in perfect condition and full of fight and was pounding the beach in his wretched style.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—Congress settled down today to await developments in the submarine controversy between the United States and Germany with an overwhelming majority of both houses apparently very definitely determined to take no action which might embarrass the administration in the present stage of diplomatic negotiation.

A few of the more ardent advocates of legislation to keep Americans off armed ships continued their activities and former Secretary Bryan's support for them was shown in the form of a telegram, but even most of them admitted there was no prospect of immediate action.

So far as the administration is concerned, it was stated authoritatively tonight that while any agitation of the issue just now was undesirable, there was no disposition to oppose a vote on the pending armed ship resolutions if their sponsors tried to force one. It was declared that representatives from the capital during the day showed conclusively that both the senate and the house would stand behind President Wilson in his refusal to permit any abridgement of the rights of American citizens on the seas, as outlined in his letter to Senator Stone last night.

The president reiterated his statement in that letter to Speaker Clark, Majority Leader Kitchen, and Representative Flood, chairman of the house foreign affairs committee, early in the day when they called at the White House to tell of the situation on their side of the capital and hear the executive's views. There was plain speaking both by the president and his callers.

Mr. Wilson said plainly that his efforts to keep the country at peace were liable to be hindered by impressions sent abroad by congressmen, and the congressmen were equally frank in giving notice that a strong sentiment existed at the Capitol against risking the possibility of war by permitting Americans to travel on armed belligerent ships.

Although wholly different reports came from other sources during the day, Speaker Clark declared he believed a resolution to warn citizens off armed vessels would carry in the house by two to one if it reached a vote.

### ANILINE DYES COMING THROUGH

BERLIN, Feb. 25 (Via London).—Through the combined efforts of the American embassy and consulate, shipments of aniline dyes for the use of the United States government in the production of postage stamps and greenbacks has been arranged. One small shipment already has gone and others will follow shortly.

Small private shipments of dyes have until now reached only as far as Holland where they have been detained. Though Edwin W. Thompson, commercial attaché here, efforts are being made to obtain for the United States a supply of sugar beet seeds, but to date the prospect is not hopeful.

### BRANDEIS EMPLOYED TO WRECK ROAD?

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] BERLIN, Feb. 25.—Louis D. Brandeis' part in the New York and New England railroad litigation in 1912 was defended today before the senate judiciary subcommittee investigating Mr. Brandeis' fitness to be a supreme court justice, by Justice Kelly of the New York supreme court, who employed him. They are opposing Mr. Brandeis charges that he had been employed to wreck the road.

"Mr. Brandeis was not employed to wreck the road," Justice Kelly told the committee. "It was already wrecked."

### CONGRESS HALTS PLAN TO KEEP AMERICANS OFF ARMED STEAMERS

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The house delegation went back to the capital with word that the president stood unalterably by his position. "There the situation rests, and while there probably will be many more conferences and possibly some speeches, the generally accepted opinion is that no further serious effort to bring about action will be made unless developments occur to make a rupture of relations with Germany imminent."

### DOUGLAS SELECTS BITULITH- IC PAVING

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### SWEDES WARNED TO KEEP OFF THE SEAS

OMAHA, Neb., Feb. 25.—P. A. Edquist, Swedish vice-consul here, received instructions from his government today to warn all Swedish subjects "to keep off the seas" after February 28, when the order of the central powers of Europe to sink armed merchant ships without warning becomes effective. The vice-consul indicated the Swedish government has issued the same instructions to all its representatives in the United States.

### SPLIT SALARY PROBE ON VERGE OF EXPOSURES

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] CHICAGO, Feb. 25.—Investigation before the civil service commission of Mrs. Page Walder Eaton's charge that she was compelled to divide her salary with her superior officer, Mrs. Louise Osborne Rowe, head of the city department of public welfare, was continued here today.

At one stage of the hearing Mrs. Rowe's attorney in questioning Mrs. Eaton touched on her acquaintance with the late David M. Sabin, once United States senator from Minnesota and testified that he had been permitted to question the witness at length.

Secretary Moore Steadman, Mrs. Eaton's attorney, protested that the incidents were not germane to the investigation and declared that if the past was to be deluged into it would insist on a complete inquiry which would include others besides his client.

Mrs. Sabin, who had been summoned as a witness, did not take the stand. She said she knew nothing about either Mrs. Eaton or Mrs. Rowe.

The Sabin incident was passed without further comment. Mrs. Eaton said she went to Europe in 1905.

"Was your husband with you?" asked Attorney Malata, counsel for Mrs. Rowe.

Mr. Steadman interposed an objection. "This is a dangerous line of procedure," he said. "There are many persons who live in glass houses."

(Continued on Page Three)

### WHOLE NAVY SYSTEM CRITICIZED SHARPLY BY ADMIRAL WINSLOW

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—The United States navy's whole system of government and operation, from education of officers to questions of ship and gun construction, was sharply criticized before the house naval committee today by Admiral Cameron McK. Winslow, commander in chief of the Pacific fleet. Without radical changes, the admiral declared, a fully efficient fighting force comparable to the British navy could not be produced in fifty years.

Yesterday Admiral Winslow told the committee the establishment of a general staff composed of active line officers was a vital necessity. Today he amplified this view, declaring the system of education at Annapolis naval academy was wrong. He urged restoration of the 1d grade of midshipman in the school. Boys should enter the service at from fourteen to sixteen years of age, he said, spend two years in preparatory schooling ashore, then go to sea to acquire the "sea habit" from actual contact with things of the sea before completing their education ashore. The polytechnic education now given midshipmen at the academy is utterly unsuited, the admiral declared, to the training of men to handle ships and commissions of ships at sea. He could see no value to be gained from making all navy officers experts in higher mathematics and thought constructors, engineers and ordinance experts should be trained as specialists and never be called upon to command ships.

### BERLIN LEARNS UNITED STATES WOULD DEAL WITH BERLIN DIRECT

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] BERLIN, Feb. 25 (Via London).—The morning papers today print a dispatch from New York which says that the administration at Washington has determined to break off relations with Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador to the United States, and negotiating direct with Berlin.

Nothing is known here regarding the reported disavowal of Count von Bernstorff but it is considered extremely probable, as was intimated in a dispatch to the Associated Press from Berlin some time ago, that the submarine negotiations will be transferred to Berlin in accordance with arrangements submitted to President Wilson several weeks ago. It is felt here that this may expedite a satisfactory settlement of the whole submarine controversy.

### CALIFORNIA-ARIZONA MINING MAN FACES INDICTMENT CHARGING ARSON

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] LOS ANGELES, Feb. 25.—Frank H. Hamilton, a mining engineer and real estate dealer of this city and Pasadena, near here, was arrested tonight on an indictment charging him with setting fire to his residence in Pasadena with intent to defraud insurance companies. He was lodged in the city jail in default of \$10,000 bail.

The indictment was returned by the Los Angeles county grand jury on September 11, 1915, shortly after Hamilton's residence in the fashionable section of Pasadena was destroyed by fire. The property and

### VALUATION LAW COSTS RAILWAYS MANY MILLIONS

President Elliott, of New York, New Haven and Hartford Makes Startling Statements at Banquet of Trust Bankers

### BETTER WAYS TO SPEND MONEY

Says Believes Will be Shown Railroads of Country Worth More Than Par Value and Are Not Over-capitalized

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire] NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—The annual banquet of the members of the trust company section of the American Bankers Association here tonight was attended by bankers and representative men from all parts of the country. The principal speaker was Howard Elliott, president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad.

President Elliott, speaking on the physical valuation law, declared that this law will cost the railways of the country from \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000 and the New Haven alone \$500,000 and \$600,000.

"This is such a large sum," he said, "that the question may well be asked: Why does the country engage in this work, and could not the same amount of money have been spent to better advantage for the countless improvements needed on the railroads?"

President Elliott, speaking on the better world of producing 25,000 miles of railways mistakes has been made in financing and methods of management, but added that railway owners and managers had learned much in the last 20 years.

"Many of us in the railway service," he concluded, "believe that when the final result of this valuation work is obtained and settled by the interstate commerce commission or by the courts, it will show that American railways generally are worth more than the par value of their securities and that the constant charge of over capitalization will be refuted and one unfortunate element in the settlement of our transportation problem will be eliminated."

Henry Morgenthau, United States ambassador to Turkey, another speaker, eulogized President Wilson, as "the master spirit among our leading statesmen, calm amid the excitement of Washington."

Judge Ben Lindsey of Denver told of his experience in Europe with the First expedition. Condition in Scotland and Poland, he said, he learned were

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